

(19)



JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11) Publication number: 08131188 A

(43) Date of publication of application: 28.05.1996

(51) Int. Cl. C12P 41/00

(21) Application number: 06299109

(22) Date of filing: 09.11.1994

(71) Applicant: NITTO CHEM IND CO LTD

(72) Inventor: TAMURA KOJI

(54) **PRODUCTION OF OPTICALLY ACTIVE
ALPHA-HYDROXY ACID OR
ALPHA-HYDROXYAMIDE**

ically controlling the cyanohydrin concentration in the system.

COPYRIGHT: (C)1996,JPO

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To simply obtain the subject compound at a high concentration by an action of a microorganism by continuously monitoring the cyanogen ion concentration in a reactional system with a cyanogen ion detector and interlocking the cyanogen ion detector and a regulator with a cyanohydrin feeder.

CONSTITUTION: A cyanohydrin of formula I {9146/28} R_1 is H or methyl; R_2 is an alkyl (except methyl when R_1 is methyl)) is reacted with a microorganism having the nitrilase or nitrile hydratase activity or a treated substance thereof and converted into an optically active α -hydroxy acid or α -hydroxyamide of formula II (X is carboxyl or amide). The cyanogen ion concentration in the system is continuously monitored with a cyanogen ion detector and a cyanohydrin feeder is interlocked with the cyanogen ion detector and regulator to carry out the reaction while automat-

